

CONGRATULATING LOYOLA UNIVERSITY WINNER OF THE EPA'S 2008 P3 STUDENT DESIGN COMPETITION

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to the Loyola University of Chicago team for being chosen as a winner of the EPA's 2008 "People, Prosperity and the Planet" Student Design Competition at this year's National Sustainable Design Expo. I am proud to represent Loyola University in Congress, and I am looking forward to sharing the news with my colleagues that students in my district are addressing the significant problems that climate change, greenhouse gas emissions, and rising energy costs present.

The importance of energy independence can't be overstated. Your project, "Innovative Biodiesel Production: A Solution to the Scientific, Technical, and Educational Challenges of Sustainability," to convert vegetable oil waste from the cafeteria into fuel that will power campus shuttle buses, is an innovative and creative way to approach it. I believe that this is a model for the entire country to learn from and hopefully adopt.

I hope that during your time at the P3 Expo you have had the chance to interact with other students, professional scientists, engineers, and business leaders from around the country. Your work to advance economic growth while reducing environmental impact should be shared.

It is for that reason that I was glad to hear that your project has an educational component that will advance P3 concepts to students in the university, in preschool, elementary school, and secondary school, and to the general public. I hope that I will be able to stop in on the Solutions to Environmental Problems course so I can see for myself how to produce and use biodiesel fuel.

Again, I salute and congratulate Luke Beasley, Pamela Geddes, Dan Larkin, Shane Lishaw, and Professor Nancy Tuchman, and will look forward to hearing about your work addressing our most pressing problems well into the future.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, on this occasion, I would like to speak in celebration of the 60th anniversary of the founding of the modern State of Israel. Israel is our most important and strongest ally in the Middle East, and all Americans should congratulate the Israeli people on this important milestone.

From technological advances in the fields of agriculture and medicine to the acceptance of women as equals, Israel has managed to establish a modern democracy full of innovation.

This achievement is only magnified by the fact that at 60, Israel is still a relatively young nation.

I support a two-state solution that provides for the existence of a self-governing Palestinian state with a separate national identity. However, Israel has the right to defend itself against attacks, and we must insist that the Palestinian Government recognize the State of Israel and act and speak out against suicide bombings and other acts of terror.

I believe that the United States should devote significant resources to promoting peace in the Middle East. History has shown that active and consistent U.S. diplomatic engagement can promote progress, while a passive U.S. role can lead to the opposite.

The pursuit of diplomacy with leaders in Israel, the Palestinian territories, and regional partner countries who recognize the inevitability and importance of coexistence and economic integration must continue to be a top U.S. foreign policy goal.

The active engagement of Congress in diplomacy with Israel and other countries in the Middle East is a welcome development. The international community must focus its energy on advancing prospects for a lasting, secure peace in the Middle East.

I congratulate the Israeli people on this important achievement. I am pleased to support this resolution and urge my colleagues to do so as well.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as a cosponsor of H. Con. Res. 322, I am glad to have the opportunity to vote for this important resolution today.

The United States recognized the State of Israel the day it was established on May 14, 1948. In the ensuing 60 years, the people of Israel have established a democratic society, developed an advanced economy, and created a thriving culture in the face of war, terrorism, and threats to its security.

H. Con. Res. 322 expresses "enduring support for Israel as Israel pursues peace with its neighbors." The importance of peace in the region cannot be overstated. Without it there can be no regional stability and no security for Israel. Over the decades, the United States has played a special role in helping facilitate the peace process in the region, and I believe we must continue to play that role.

For 60 years, the United States and Israel have shared strong bonds of friendship, common values, and strategic interests. Our support for the people of Israel has been a fundamental part of American foreign policy and remains so today. In the post-9/11 world and with American soldiers engaged in two wars on Islamic soil, I believe our historic alliance with the State of Israel has even greater significance.

So again, Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Israel on its 60th birthday and send my best wishes to the Israeli people for a peaceful and prosperous future.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of the State of Israel and the greater Jewish community on the 60th anniversary of their independence.

The United States supported the establishment of the Jewish State in 1948, and our two countries have been the closest of friends and strong allies ever since.

Our friendship is rooted in some deeply shared beliefs. We believe in freedom of religion, in freedom of the press, and in freedom of speech. We believe in free and fair elections. And we believe that extremism and terrorism have no place in the global community.

Since its independence, Israel has endured unstable and troubling conditions in the Middle East. They have been subject to violence and unwarranted attacks. They have been asked to compromise their borders. They have had missile strikes threatening the lives of innocent citizens on an almost daily basis. Yet, the Israeli people remain united and strong—continuing to stand up for their beliefs and for their country.

Israel is a modern success story. It is the only democracy in the Middle East. It is the only Middle Eastern country where Arabs have the right to vote for their elected officials and their political leaders. And, it is one of the only Middle Eastern nations without oil wealth that has transformed itself from an agrarian-based economy to a high tech economic powerhouse.

Today, as Israel turns 60, it is important to remember what she stands for.

I believe Israel, while small in geographic size, is one of the largest symbols of humankind's continued faith in God.

I believe her enduring spirit to survive inspires.

And, I believe in her unwavering dedication to freedom and democracy.

I am proud to be a friend of Israel's and I believe we must continue to stand with her. And today, I want to join my colleagues in wishing Israel a hearty Mazel Tov on 60 years of Independence.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF EDWARD JAMES OLMOS

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 2008

Ms. SOLIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Edward James Olmos, winner of the 2008 CINE Lifetime Achievement Award. The CINE Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes the few pinnacle leaders in the film and video industry whose lifetime contributions have left a profound impact on our culture.

A native of East Los Angeles, Edward James Olmos has been a trailblazer in the film industry as an actor, producer, and director.